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URBAN
DISTRICT OF STAINES.

Annual Report

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

The
Urban District Council of Staines,
1925.

STAINES :

West Middlesex Press, Ltd., 33, Clarence Street.

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THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE
Staines Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN.

I beg to submit my ANNUAL REPORT for the year ending December 31st 1925.

General Statistics.

AREA.—1,844 Acres of Land ; 74 Acres of Water.

Population—7329.

Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)—1596.

Number of Separate Occupiers (1921)—1841.

Rateable Value—£64,812.

Sum Represented by a Penny Rate—£255.

Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS.

The total number of Births registered during the year numbered 128 as compared to 155 in 1924 and 129 in 1923. Of the Births 57 were males and 71 females. Four were illegitimate, two males and two females. The Birth Rate was 16·9 per 1,000 as compared to 20·7 in 1924 and 17·5 in 1923.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1925 was 18·3.

DEATHS.

The Deaths numbered 74; of these 35 were males and 39 females.

The Death Rate was 9·8 per 1,000 as compared to 13·5 in 1924 and 10 in 1923.

The Death Rate for England and Wales in 1925 was 12·2.

The number of Infantile Deaths (under one year) was 5; of these 4 were males and one female; one was illegitimate.

This is equal to an Infantile Death Rate of 39 as compared to 26 in 1924 and 31 in 1923. One death was due to Whooping Cough and none to Diarrhœa. No women died during or in consequence of Child Birth.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of cases notified the number transferred to Hospital and the number of Deaths.

Disease.	Number notified	Number sent to Hospital	Died
Smallpox ...	0	0	0
Diphtheria ...	6	6	1
Scarlet Fever ..	17	17	0
Enteric Fever ...	1	0	0
Puerpual Fever ...	1	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	0	1

The yearly numbers of Infectious Diseases notified during the past five years remains about the same. Diphtheria Antitoxin is used in a large percentage of suspicious throats.

Return cases of Scarlet Fever are remarkably few; Ear and Nose discharges being the common causes. Cases of Encephalitis Lethargica are very infrequent. Pathological and Bacteriological specimens are examined by the Clinical Research Association.

Rooms are always disinfected after cases of notifiable infectious diseases.

The Shick and Dick tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever are not used.

Influenza has again been the most common cause of sickness though causing only three deaths. No school has been closed during the past five years for infectious diseases.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Eight new cases were notified during the year; of these seven were pulmonary and one non-pulmonary.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis caused six deaths and non-pulmonary Tuberculosis one death. Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925 and Public Health Act 1925 Section 62.—No action was necessary under these Regulations.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

There is no local centre for the treatment of these diseases cases going either to London or to Richmond for treatment.

No cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified.

HOSPITALS.

Staines Cottage Hospital is used for the treatment of non-infectious cases. Most of the Medical and Surgical work is done there.

Windsor Hospital is used for the treatment of cases requiring special treatment such as X Ray examinations and treatments and Eye cases.

It is the nearest General Hospital and accommodates 100 cases.

Infectious Cases are treated in the Staines Joint Isolation Hospital.

Sanatoria for the treatment of Tuberculosis are supported by the Middlesex County Council as are Hospitals for the treatment of Small Pox.

A trained nurse is provided by the Staines District Nurse Fund for the nursing of non-infectious cases. Midwives three in number are under the supervision of their various County Councils, as are also the School Clinics and the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.

A Health Visitor is also provided by the Middlesex County Council, who visits and advises the mothers of new born babes.

There is no special Institute for unmarried mothers or homeless children.

A Town Ambulance is used for non infectious cases and the Ambulance from the Isolation Hospital for infectious cases.

Clinics.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

This centre is under the supervision of the Assistant Schools Medical Officer and is very popular.

SCHOOLS CLINICS.

These are also under the supervision of the Assistant Schools Medical Officer.

TUBERCULOSIS CENTRE.

This Centre is under the supervision of Dr. Norton the County Tuberculosis Officer for the District.

He attends fortnightly at the Dispensary in Thames Street.

Most cases of Tuberculosis are under his supervision.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

This consists of.

- (1) Health Visitor (whole time).
- (2) Sanitary Inspector (part time).
- (3) Medical Officer of Health (part time).

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

Staines is supplied by the South Western Suburban Water Company. It is a constant supply.

The water is examined both Chemically and Bacteriologically four times a year and the reports are invariably good. There is no pollution of Rivers or Streams in the neighbourhood.

No cases of illness can be traced to the water supply.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Staines Urban District is provided with a water drainage system.

The sewage is treated by filtration and the effluent discharged into the River Ash.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The number of Inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector during the year was 160 General Inspections.

The number of notices served during the year was 98—78 Statutory and 20 Informal. The result of the service of such notices was that all defects were remedied.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action was required to be taken in regard to the abatement of nuisance from smoke

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS OR REGULATIONS

There are none in the area.

Housing.

I. GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS IN THE AREA.

Shortage of houses is estimated at 90.

The Council are now building 52 Houses under the 1923 Housing Act and contemplate building more.

II. OVERCROWDING.

(a) There are several cases but not many in extent.

(b) CAUSES:—Scarcity of houses and unwillingness of owners to let to tenants with children.

(c) MEASURES TAKEN OR CONTEMPLATED FOR DEALING WITH OVERCROWDING:—The Council are giving preference to tenants with large families for their new houses and are negotiating with House Agents as to others to fill vacancies thus caused.

III FITNESS OF HOUSES.

The common causes of defects found to exist in unfit houses are dampness due to climatic conditions and want of cleanliness due to tenants neglect or overcrowding. No difficulties are encountered in remedying unfitness, the owners generally co-operate readily.

The conditions as regards water supply, closet accommodation and refuse disposal are good.

IV UNHEALTHY AREAS. There are no unhealthy areas in the neighbourhood.

HOUSING STATISTIC FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

- | | | |
|------|---|-----|
| (a) | Total (including numbers given separately under | |
| (b) | ... .. | 23. |
| (b) | With State Assistance under Housing Acts : | |
| (i) | By the Local Authority | 0 |
| (ii) | By other bodies or persons | 0 |

I UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

- | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---|----|
| Inspection. | (1) | Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts). | 33 |
| | (2) | Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910 or the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 | 12 |
| | (3) | Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 0 |
| | (4) | Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. | 21 |

II REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	6
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III ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

(A) Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act 1925.

- | | | |
|-----|--|----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | 17 |
| (2) | Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :— | |
| (a) | By owners | 17 |
| (b) | By Local Authority in default of owners | 0 |
| (3) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close. | 0 |

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 31
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice :—
- (a) By owners 31
- (b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0
- (C) Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Acts 1925.
- (1) Number of representations made with a view to making of Closing Orders 0
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made 0
- (3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit 0
- (4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 0
- (5) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. 0

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances) :—

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	13	4	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	42	3	—
Workplaces (other than Out-workers premises)	11	0	—
Total ...	66	7	—

2. Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—				
Want of cleanliness... ..	2	2	—	—
Want of ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors ...	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	1	1	—	—
Sanitary { insufficient ...	—	—	—	—
accom- { unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—
modation { not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s.111)	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factory and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921).				
Total ...	4	4	—	—

I attach a table showing the Causes of Deaths for the year 1925.

CAUSES OF DEATH.				Male.	Female.
	All Causes	...	...	35	39
1	Enteric Fever	...	...	0	0
2	Smallpox	...	...	0	0
3	Measles	...	...	0	0
4	Scarlet Fever	...	...	0	0
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	1	0
6	Diphtheria	...	...	0	1
7	Influenza	...	...	1	2
8	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	1	0
9	Meningococcal Meningitis	...	...	0	0
10	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	3	3
11	Other Tuberculosis diseases	...	...	1	0
12	Cancer, Malignant disease	...	...	5	10
13	Rheumatic Fever	...	...	0	0
14	Diabetes	...	...	1	0
15	Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	1	4
16	Heart Disease	...	...	4	10
17	Arterio-Sclerosis	...	...	3	1
18	Bronchitis	...	...	0	3
19	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	2	1
20	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	0	0
21	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodeum	...	...	0	1
22	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	0	0
23	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	1	0
24	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	0	0
25	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	2	0
26	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	0	0
27	Other Accidents or Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	0	0
28	Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	...	...	2	0
29	Suicide	...	...	0	0
30	Other Deaths from Violence	...	...	1	0
31	Other defined Diseases	...	...	6	3
32	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	0	0

				Male.	Female.
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	{	Total	...	3	1
		Illegitimate	...	1	0
Total Births	...	..	...	57	71
Legitimate	...	...	..	55	69
Illegitimate	...	...	...	2	2

I remain, gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. C. MANN.

